



MARCH 2014

INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Saturday, March 1, 2014

7:30 a.m. Walk - Bird Walk (Rain cancels)

1.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars.



11:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

12:00 p.m. Class - No More Boring Slideshows

3 Hours



Many of us have hundreds — if not thousands — of photos sitting on our computers from various trips and adventures. Join Phil Roullard to learn what you can do with your travel and landscape photographs to share them in exciting ways with friends and family. \$25 / \$20 for ABF Members. For information and to register, visit www.theabf.org or call 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

1:00 p.m. Garden Walk ♿ - Small World

1 Hour

Everyone is impressed with the vast dimensions and stunning vistas of Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The desert is equally impressive on a micro-scale. Stretch your perspective and explore the natural history of the Park up close and personal with Volunteer Naturalist Daniel Hellyer for a one-hour easy walk. Meet at the Visitor Center.



3:00 p.m. Junior Rangers at Tamarisk Grove

45 Minutes

Join Park Aide Eric at this special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Tamarisk Grove Office as space is limited.

7:30 p.m. - Campfire- ♿ Bats of Borrego and Beyond

1 Hour

Bats are in the air, everywhere! Find out why these mysterious night flyers are disappearing and how you can help protect them. Meet Ranger Jeri Zemon at Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

UNLESS NOTED, ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER (OPEN DAILY).

♿ DENOTES PROGRAMS ACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED. PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.



DENOTES PROGRAMS OFFERED BY OUR COOPERATING ASSOCIATION, ANZA-BORREGO FOUNDATION. FUNDS SUPPORT INTERPRETATION AT ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK. **DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS.**



MARCH 2014

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Sunday, March 2, 2014

8:00 a.m. Bike Ride - Old Kane Springs Mountain Bike Ride

4 Hours



Join Bob Theriault and Alan Tulving for a moderately strenuous 17-mile mountain bike ride starting on Old Kane Springs Road. Enjoy impressive desert views as you continue across Highway 78 to explore the varied terrain in the Buttes Pass area. \$20 / \$10 for ABF Members. For information and to register, visit www.theabf.org or call 760-767-0446 ext 1003.



8:30 a.m. Walk – Birds of Tamarisk Grove

1 Hour

Join Becky Rusk, the Tamarisk Grove Campground Host, for a stroll around the campground to look for birds. Meet at the campground office. Bring binoculars, if you have them.

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk

45 Minutes

Explore the Visitor Center Garden with a Park Interpreter and discover some of the special characteristics of desert plants. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

9:00 a.m. Hike – Travertine Palms

5 Hours

There is a beautiful palm oasis in the far northeast corner of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Ted Caragozian for a moderately strenuous 5-6 mile (roundtrip) hike across rocky ground to the oasis. We'll see fresh water shells from old Lake Cahuilla along the way. Bring water, light lunch, and sturdy hiking shoes. Meet at the Red Earth Casino parking lot, north on State Highway 86.

Wednesday, March 5, 2014

11:00 a.m. Display ♿ - Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Lions

2.5 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be stationed in the Visitor Center Garden greeting visitors and answering questions about her display of photos, horns, pelts, scat and other objects associated with our desert bighorn sheep and mountain lions.

3:00 p.m. Hike – Big Spring Ramble

2.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian to discover an oasis in the transition zone and see what's blooming. Meet at the pullout at mile 11.3 on highway S-22 for an easy-paced walk to Big Spring in Tubb Canyon. Wear sturdy footwear, a hat, and carry water. This hike is rated moderate.

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MARCH 2014

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Thursday, March 6, 2014

9:00 a.m. Hike – South Palm Wash

3 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund for a hike up a wash, then into a beautiful slot canyon up to a 20-25 foot dry waterfall. There is a rockfall about 100 meters before the waterfall that can be negotiated by those who choose. Meet at the overlook at mile marker 38.2 on S22 (at the phone call box near the Calcite Mine) for this moderate 4-mile hike.



10:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

2 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Aleese will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for Aleese in her volunteer vest as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

Friday, March 7, 2014

10:00 a.m. Display ♿ - Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Lions

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be stationed in the Visitor Center Garden greeting visitors and answering questions about her display of photos, horns, pelts, scat and other objects associated with our desert bighorn sheep and mountain lions.

1:00 p.m. Garden Walk ♿ - Small World

1 Hour

Everyone is impressed with the vast dimensions and stunning vistas of Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The desert is equally impressive on a micro-scale. Stretch your perspective and explore the natural history of the Park up close and personal with Volunteer Naturalist Daniel Hellyer for a one-hour easy walk. Meet at the Visitor Center.

7:30 p.m. Concert- Balancing Out the Universe Benefit Concert with Tony Feathers 2 Hours



Songwriter and Park Volunteer Tony Feathers will share an evening of original songs and stories at the Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center. Prepare for an evening of eclectic Americana music, stories that might be true (or not), and a chance to become a kid again and join in on a few of Tony's songs for children. All proceeds will benefit the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Junior Ranger Program. The tickets are \$15 each. For information, visit www.theabf.org or call 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

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Saturday, March 8, 2014

8:30 Walk – Behind the Ghost Mountain Story: Facts, Fabrications and Embellishments 3 Hours

Learn about the Marshal South family and their experiment in primitive living on a remote mountain top. Join Volunteer Naturalists Mike and Jan Bigelow on this 2-mile roundtrip, steep but scenic, walk up Ghost Mountain. Bring water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the entrance to Blair Valley, about a 45 minute drive from the Visitor Center.

9:00 a.m. Class - Land Before the Rain Shadow

2 Days



This two-day field course with Paul Remeika will assist you in recognizing the importance of the local geologic record and the reasons why Anza-Borrego is considered an outstanding example of a world-class, out-of-doors museum worthy of protection and preservation. This field course carries no prerequisite and is open to anyone interested in the earth sciences. 4WD required. \$140 / \$130 for ABF Members. For information and to register, visit www.theabf.org or call 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

10:00 a.m. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk

45 Minutes

Explore the Visitor Center Garden with a Park Interpreter and discover some of the special characteristics of desert plants. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.



11:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

12:00 p.m. Talk – Tailgate Tour

1 Hour

Join the only CA State Park pilot, Ranger Kelly McCague, for a special presentation about her responsibilities and see the plane up close. Program will be conducted at the Borrego Springs Airport. Meet her at the airport office and she will take you to the plane.

1:30 p.m. Talk ♿ - The Pollen Path: Seasonal Movements of Native Americans

1 Hour

Discover the amazing secrets of the Native Americans who lived in the area that is now Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Join Volunteer Naturalist Steve Russell in an exciting journey through the past as we take a look at how early residents migrated to take advantage of different food supplies.

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Saturday, March 8, 2014 (continued)

7:30 p.m. – Campfire -♿- Ranger Encounters

1 Hour

Join Ranger Don Strampfer to explore the multitude of remarkable experiences a Ranger might encounter while patrolling Anza-Borrego Desert State Park's great expanses! Meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center. P.S. Campfire songs are always a possibility

Sunday, March 9, 2014

8:30 a.m. Walk – Birds of Tamarisk Grove

1 Hour

Join Becky Rusk, the Tamarisk Grove Campground Host, for a stroll around the campground to look for birds. Meet at the campground office. Bring binoculars, if you have them.

11:00 a.m. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk

45 Minutes

Explore the Visitor Center Garden with a Park Interpreter and discover some of the special characteristics of desert plants. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

12:00 p.m. Hike – Discovering the Archaeological History of the 'Ehmuu Morteros 2 Hours

Discover the hidden secrets of an ancient Kumeyaay Native American village site. Join Volunteer Archaeologist and Naturalist Sam Webb to explore both rock art and historic milling features. This 1.5 mile hike is over uneven terrain. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the Morteros trailhead in Blair Valley, about 3 miles off Highway S-2 on a dirt road (turn into Blair Valley near Mile Marker 23).

1:00p.m. Class- Insects and Spiders of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

3 Hours



Participants will join Dr. Michael Wall on a guided nature hike. You will learn how to identify the signs of different kinds of insect and spider activity. Participants will also learn about which plants act as hosts to specific insects. Finally, participants will conduct a small survey of ants and discuss different ways that insects are collected for research and education. \$35 / \$25 for ABF Members.

For information and to register, visit www.theabf.org or call 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

Monday, March 10, 2014

10:00 a.m. Botany Lecture ♿ - Desert Insects and the Plants They Love

1 Hour

Dr. Michael Wall, Curator of Entomology at the San Diego Natural History Museum, will present a lecture sponsored by the ABDSP Botany Society on the relationship between insects, spiders and plants. The public is welcome, and there is no charge. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Tuesday, March 11, 2014

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Desert Scents

1 Hour

Enjoy an easy stroll through the Visitor Center Garden with Volunteer Naturalist Ingrid Coffin. Use your senses on this plant exploration program that meets at the Visitor Center entrance.



Thursday, March 13, 2014

9:00 a.m. Hike – Squeeze through the Slot

3 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Mary Ekelund and Paul Larson on a moderate 3-mile roundtrip hike through a winding slot canyon with rugged walls, overhanging rocks, and some surprising wild flowers. You will have to negotiate some tight squeezes and a short climb up a very steep hill. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at Buttes Pass Road, 1.5 miles east of Borrego Springs Road on Highway 78.

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Desert Scents

1 Hour

Enjoy an easy stroll through the Visitor Center Garden with Volunteer Naturalist Ingrid Coffin. Use your senses on this plant exploration program that meets at the Visitor Center entrance.

Friday, March 14, 2014

8:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her in her volunteer vest as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

9:00 a.m. Lecture - Paleontology

3 Hours

Dr. Lyndon Murray, District Paleontologist, will present this lecture as part of the Volunteer Paleontology lecture series. Open to the public. Meet in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

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Saturday, March 15, 2014

7:30 a.m. Walk - Bird Walk (Rain cancels)

1.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars.

8:00 a.m. Auto Tour- Secrets of Desert Cahuilla

8 Hours



On this 4WD trip we will join Paul Johnson explore the geologic wonders of Big Wash and Verbena Wash, parts of the Desert Cahuilla area of ABDSP. We will see many different kinds of sandstone concretions, fault offsets, rich plant life, deeply patinated rock deposits and some of the most pristine desert views in Anza-Borrego. \$70 / \$60 for ABF Members. For information and to register, visit www.theabf.org or call 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

10:00 a.m. Display ♿ - Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Lions

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be stationed in the Visitor Center Garden greeting visitors and answering questions about her display of photos, horns, pelts, scat and other objects associated with our desert bighorn sheep and mountain lions.

11:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

1:00 p.m. Book Signing with David H. Van Cleve

2 Hours



Former park ranger, ecologist, and superintendent (as well as new ABF trustee) Dave Van Cleve will be here in Borrego Springs at the State Park Store to promote his book 'Have a Nice Day Job'. Free and open to the public. For more information, please visit www.theabf.org or call 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

1:30 p.m. Talk ♿ - The Pollen Path: Seasonal Movements of Native Americans

1 Hour

Discover the amazing secrets of the Native Americans who lived in the area that is now Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Join Volunteer Naturalist Steve Russell in an exciting journey through the past as we take a look at how early residents migrated to take advantage of different food supplies.

3:00 p.m. Junior Rangers at Tamarisk Grove

45 Minutes

Join Park Aide Eric at this special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Tamarisk Grove Office as space is limited.

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Saturday, March 15, 2014 (continued)

7:30 p.m. – Campfire ♿ - Ranger Surprise

1 Hour

Join Ranger D. L. at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for an evening campfire program.

7:30 p.m. Lecture- The Untold Stories of Anza-Borrego

2 Hours



Hear the untold stories of Anza-Borrego from the mouths of those who lived them. Join past park superintendents and rangers for an evening of shared memories, storytelling and tales from earlier times in the park. \$5 at the door, Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center. For more information and to register, please visit www.theabf.org or call 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

Sunday, March 16, 2014

8:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalists in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalists Mike and Jan Bigelow will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for them in their volunteer vests as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

9:00 a.m. Hike – Happy Trails

3 Hours

Meet up with “Doc and Francis Beaty” (Volunteer Naturalists Ron and Peg Poitras) for a moderate 3-mile walk down an old cowboy trail and enjoy tales about the lives and times of the Coyote Canyon farmers and cowboys. Meet at 9:00 am at the Visitor Center (third parking lot) for carpooling to the site. Bring water, a snack if desired, walking shoes, sun protection and a hat.

10:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - In Search of the Elusive Elephant Tree

30 Minutes

The seldom seen, endangered elephant tree survives in only a few scattered and isolated spots in California. Join Volunteer Naturalist Karen Cormier at the Visitor Center to find out how to identify these distinctive trees, hear why Native Americans valued the trees, and discover where you can look for elephant tree herds “in the wild”.



1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk

45 Minutes

Explore the Visitor Center Garden with a Park Interpreter and discover some of the special characteristics of desert plants. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

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Tuesday, March 18, 2014

4:00 a.m. Hike – Moonlight/Sunrise Hike

5 Hours

Here's something completely different. Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Ted Caragozian for an early morning outing. We'll start out hiking in the moonlight and then watch the rosy fingered dawn break over the desert. We may walk as much as six miles over some uneven ground. Limited to 15 participants, please sign up at the Visitor Center and include your phone number to receive meeting details.

11:00 a.m. Talk – Cosmic Recycling: Geological Highlights of the Anza-Borrego Region 1 Hour

Southern California has a rich and varied geological history. Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian will relate some of the fascinating local lore and how it ties into the larger picture. Meet in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

Wednesday, March 19, 2014

10:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

2 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Aleese will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for Aleese in her volunteer vest as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

4:00 p.m. Hike – Lute Fault

3 Hours

Earthquake geology, local history and desert plant life will be the focus of this hike. Meet Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian at the call box across from Thimble Trail on S-22 at Mile Marker 31.9. Bring water and sturdy shoes for this 2-3 mile round trip hike on uneven ground.



Thursday, March 20, 2014

8:00 a.m. Hike – Calcite Canyon Spectacular

5.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian and explore the sandstone canyon country around the Calcite Mine. You will follow the Middle Fork of Palm Wash up over some small dry falls to a slot canyon, check out the mine, and see a demonstration of calcite's interesting optical properties. Meet at the Calcite Mine Road, mile marker 38.1, east on Highway S-22. Parking is available on both sides of the highway. Wear sturdy footwear, a hat, and carry water. This hike is rated moderately strenuous.

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Thursday, March 20, 2014 (continued)

9:00 a.m. Hike – Earthquake Valley Panorama

3 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists, Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund, for a moderate 4-mile hike up Plum Canyon to an overlook high over Earthquake Valley. Discover some interesting plants and geological features along the way. Meet at the entrance to Plum Canyon off Highway 78.

3:00 p.m. Hike – Culp Valley Walkabout

3 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian for a walkabout in the transition habitat of Culp Valley and experience Pena Spring and its associated riparian area. Then follow a section of the Riding and Hiking Trail to an outstanding overlook before looping back to the start. Meet at the entrance to Culp Valley Campground between Mile Markers 9 and 9.5 on highway S-22. This hike is rated moderate.

3:00 p.m. Talk - ABDSP Sand Mammoth

1 Hour

Volunteer Naturalist Sandra Keeley will give a talk about the recent discovery and extraction of a mammoth scull from our desert at the monthly meeting of the Naturalist Society. The meeting will be held in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center, and the public is invited.

Friday, March 21, 2014

7:30 p.m. Talk - Stargazing with Binoculars (rainy or cloudy weather cancels)

1.5 Hours

Meet at the Visitor Center to discover how binoculars can help you explore the beautiful night sky! Dress warmly and bring binoculars, if you have them, and a flashlight (red lens preferable). We will also have a telescope set up for viewing.



Saturday, March 22, 2014


9:00 a.m. Tour - Landscape Photography Tour

9 Hours



Hosted by Calumet Photographic and Ernie & Kati Cowan, this landscape photography workshop is designed for both the beginning photographer who wants to learn some exciting new approaches to nature and landscape photography, or for the advanced amateur who wants to expand their creative landscape photography techniques. This is a field workshop, with locations in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Please visit www.calumetphoto.com to register. Fee is \$100.

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Saturday, March 22, 2014 (continued)

10:00 a.m. Display ♿ - Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Lions

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be stationed in the Visitor Center Garden greeting visitors and answering questions about her display of photos, horns, pelts, scat and other objects associated with our desert bighorn sheep and mountain lions.



11:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

12:00 p.m. Hike – Discovering the Archaeological History of the ‘Ehmuu Morteros 2 Hours

Discover the hidden secrets of an ancient Kumeyaay Native American village site. Join Volunteer Archaeologist and Naturalist Sam Webb to explore both rock art and historic milling features. This 1.5 mile hike is over uneven terrain. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the Morteros trailhead in Blair Valley, about 3 miles off Highway S-2 on a dirt road (turn into Blair Valley near mile marker 23).

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk

45 Minutes

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker as she takes you on a stroll through the Visitor Center Garden to discover what is in bloom.

7:30 p.m. – Campfire ♿ - Ranger Surprise

1 Hour

Join Ranger Nicole at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for an evening campfire program.

Sunday, March 23, 2014

10:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - In Search of the Elusive Elephant Tree

30 Minutes

The seldom seen, endangered elephant tree survives in only a few scattered and isolated spots in California. Join Volunteer Naturalist Karen Cormier at the Visitor Center to find out how to identify these distinctive trees, hear why Native Americans valued the trees, and discover where you can look for elephant tree herds “in the wild”.

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Sunday, March 23, 2014 (continued)

11:00 a.m. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk

45 Minutes

Explore the Visitor Center Garden with a Park Interpreter and discover some of the special characteristics of desert plants. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

10:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

2 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Aleese Golding will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for Aleese in her volunteer vest as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

Thursday, March 27, 2014

9:00 a.m. Hike – Pictographs – What Were They Trying to Say?

2.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund on a moderate 3-mile roundtrip hike through a beautiful desert valley to a panoramic overlook. Along the way, we will look at some interesting plants, morteros and rock art. Meet at the entrance to Blair Valley, about a 45 minute drive from the Visitor Center.

2:00 p.m. Talk ♿ – Archaeology Lecture

1 Hour

Join the Colorado Desert Archaeology Society for "What Ollas Can Tell Us" by Susanne Griset, Ph.D, Principal Investigator SWCA Environmental Consultants, Tucson Arizona. As a recipient of a Robert Begole Grant, Dr. Griset is analyzing whole vessels from ABDSP. Many of these ollas are currently displayed in the cases in the Discovery Room at the Visitor Center and each has a story to tell. Following the lecture the monthly meeting of the Archaeology Society will be held. Members of the public are invited to both.

Friday, March 28, 2014

8:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her in her volunteer vest as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – Cosmic Recycling: Geological Highlights of the Anza-Borrego Region 1 Hour

Southern California has a rich and varied geological history. Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian will relate some of the fascinating local lore and how it ties into the larger picture. Meet in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

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DENOTES PROGRAMS OFFERED BY OUR COOPERATING ASSOCIATION, ANZA-BORREGO FOUNDATION. FUNDS SUPPORT INTERPRETATION AT ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK. **DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS.**



MARCH 2014

INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Friday, March 28, 2014

8:00 p.m. Talk ♿ – Stargazing

1.5 Hours

Come check out our all-new stargazing program with telescope viewing accompanied by dramatic and informative short videos about the objects we'll see. We'll meet in the Nierenberg Plaza and Amphitheater at the Visitor Center, unless it's rainy or cloudy or blowing a gale, in which case we'll enjoy the videos inside. Bring warm clothes and a flashlight (with a red lens, if you have one).

Saturday, March 29, 2014

7:30 a.m. Walk - Bird Walk (Rain cancels)

1.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars.

8:30 a.m. Hike –Ghost Mountain

2.5 Hours

Experience the Marshal South story on this trek up Ghost Mountain with Volunteer Naturalist Dan Leidecker. The hike is steep but relatively short (one mile up, one mile down) and offers a glimpse into the family's life on this remote mountain top. Bring water, a snack, hat and sturdy footwear. Meet at the entrance to Blair Valley, about a 45 minute drive from the Visitor Center.

9:00 a.m. Hike – South Rockhouse Loop

6 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Paul Larson for a hike to the other rockhouse in the southern part of the Park. We could see some great flower displays along the way, plus the other Una Palma. Wear sturdy shoes; bring a snack and plenty of water as this is a fairly strenuous hike. Meet near Mile Marker 48 on Highway S-2.

11:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk

45 Minutes

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker as she takes you on a stroll through the Visitor Center Garden to discover what is in bloom.



7:30 p.m. – Campfire - ♿ - Ranger Surprise

1 Hour

Join Ranger Steve at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for an evening campfire program.

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MARCH 2014

INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



DESERT SAFETY

✓ **Carry water AND drink it**

Saving your water for the hike back has led to death in Anza-Borrego. Drink plenty of water before you leave home, while you hike, and on the return route. If you feel thirsty, it is already too late. Drink lots of water and drink often.

✓ **Make sure your vehicle is desert-ready.**

Equip your vehicle for the desert. You should always carry extra water, a shade tarp, a shovel, a tire pump, and extra food.

✓ **Prepare yourself.**

In addition to carrying water, you should have protective clothing, sunscreen, a hat, a good map, food and a first aid kit which includes a comb and tweezers.

✓ **Have a plan.**

Leave all your trip information with a friend. Tell him/her your destination, the route you intend to follow, your expected return time, a description of your vehicle with license plate number, and the time by which he/she should notify park authorities in case you do not return.

✓ **Do not split up the group**

Stay together. Never leave anyone behind to rest.

✓ **Leave snakes alone.**

Many venomous snakes live in the desert. If you threaten them, they may strike. It is illegal to harass, catch, or kill any snake within Anza-Borrego. If bitten, remain calm and seek immediate medical attention.

✓ **When emergencies happen ...**

Stop. Stay calm. Seek shelter. If you are with your vehicle, remain there; do not leave it. Signal with mirrors, white cloth, whistle (three short blasts on a whistle, pause, then three more, repeat frequently), and put your hood up. It is much easier to find a vehicle in the desert than a person!!!

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